

△ NEWSLETTER △

DIVISION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

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CALL FOR PAPERS

The APA Call for Papers appears in the February issue of The American Psychologist. All the general rules are stated there. However, each division has the responsibility of putting its own program together. The Clinical Division, because it finds itself particularly cramped for time, has to keep experimenting with new formats. These experiments involve supplemental requirements beyond those stated in The American Psychologist.

The Division's most acute problem is in scheduling individual reports. Last year it turned down more than half the proposals. This year it intends to try out a new type of paper-reading session in order to reduce the general frustration among those members who fall in love with their typewriters about this time each year. Here is the way it works.

Individual Reports. Instead of allotting exactly twelve minutes for every report accepted, the Program Committee will divide the selected papers between two types of sessions. One type of session will involve the reading of four cognate twelve-minute papers, selected because of their common focus upon a problem of particular current interest to clinical psychologists. These papers will not necessarily be better than other papers -- the Committee has to admit that it cannot judge quality that closely -- but they will have a common focus and their central topic will be timely.

The other type of session will comprise nine 300-word summaries of reports presented orally by their authors. Each author will provide at least seventy-five copies of his full report for those listeners whose interest he arouses. The full report may have as many pages as he cares to lug to the meetings. Moreover, each author will be given an opportunity to name a time and a place where he will be available to discuss his work informally.

The tentative plan of the Program Committee is to schedule six of the cognate paper sessions and eight of the summarized paper sessions. This will permit the Committee to accept ninety-six papers, but will still require them to reject an estimated twenty-five or more. Contributors who do not wish to have their abstracts considered for the summarized paper sessions are asked to indicate that fact when submitting their abstracts.

Symposia. Clinical psychologists continue to express a high regard for symposia but they are beginning to complain about the way some participants write independent papers instead of putting their heads together beforehand. This year the Committee asks each symposium chairman to agree to convene his panel for an hour's private discussion among themselves before they appear together in public.

Topical Discussion Groups. This recent innovation will be continued this year on a small scale. It is not clear yet whether the membership wants to expand this type of program at the expense of other types.

Rules and Deadlines. Except for the supplementary requirements the Divisional Program Committee has listed above, all the necessary rules and deadlines are given in the February issue of The American Psychologist. Note particularly the April sixteenth deadline for papers and symposia materials being in the hands of the Chairman of the Division Program Committee. Be sure to include personally signed pledges to appear if proposals are placed on the program.

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Clinical Division
Program Committee
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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Periodically our By-Laws require revision, either to keep them in line with APA By-Laws, or to embody new procedures and policies within the Division. Two such changes appear necessary since the last revision in 1954, (when the Division name was changed to the Division of Clinical instead of Clinical and Abnormal Psychology and the "Abnormal" specialty was closed as a pathway to membership).

The changes on which you are asked to vote on the ballot, which you will find attached to the last page of this issue are as follows:

- (1) In Article VII, Committees, Section I: In the present By-Laws there is an inaccurate reference to the article in the APA By-Laws which now specifies that Divisions have the right to determine their own committee structure, except that new committees are subject to review by the Board of Directors of APA in order to determine whether such committees should more properly be committees of the Association. The proposed change conforms to this provision.
- (2) Since the Division By-Laws were formulated, the task of selection from the very large number of applications received each year has necessitated the appointment of a Sub-Committee on Associates to assist the Membership Committee in the screening of Associate applications. This committee has been in operation for three years, since nothing in the By-Laws precludes it. It seems desirable, however, that it be formally incorporated in the article on Committees.

Procedure

Article IX, Amendments, reads as follows:

"1. An amendment to these By-Laws may be proposed by the Executive Committee, or by a petition of fifty members presented to the Executive Committee, or by a motion passed by a majority of those present and voting at an annual meeting.

"2. After an amendment has been proposed, it shall be mailed to the last known post office address of each member, or shall be published in the official journal of the American Psychological Association.

"3. An amendment may be adopted by either of the following procedures:

- (a) By a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at an annual meeting held not less than one month after the mailing or publication of the proposed amendment, or
- (b) By a majority vote of the members on a mail ballot which shall close not less than one month after the mailing or publication of the proposed amendment."

The changes indicated on the ballot are recommended by the Executive Committee. It will be noted that Section 3, above, provides that action shall be taken not less than one month following the mail ballot. It seems desirable to the Executive Committee to allow more time than this minimum for the consideration of amendments. Accordingly, the balloting will close July 1, 1956. The prompt return of your ballots will, however, greatly facilitate the work of counting and recording the vote. Ballots should be addressed to the Secretary, Dr. Helen D. Sargent, The Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas.

MIDWINTER MEETING

As this Newsletter goes to press, plans are being laid for the annual Midwinter Meeting of the Executive Committee at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, March 14-15, just preceding the annual convention of the American Orthopsychiatric Association. The report of this meeting will appear in the next Newsletter.

POST-DOCTORAL INSTITUTE

Coincident with the 100th anniversary of the birth of Sigmund Freud, the Post-Doctoral Institute will be devoted to an evaluation of the utility and application of psychoanalytic personality theory in the various areas in which clinical psychologists work. Tentatively the Institute will comprise sections devoted to discussion of the ways in which psychoanalytic theory has influenced therapy with children, interpretation of psychological tests, experimental methodology and interpretation of findings, concepts of mental health, psychophysiological reactions to stress and psychotherapy with psychotics

or near-psychotics. The list of topics will be modified in accord with the availability of instructors to be invited from a highly selected list prepared by the Committee.

The Post-Doctoral Institute will be held on the campus of Northwestern University from August 22 through August 28. As in previous years tuition will be \$50.00 and qualified applicants will be enrolled in order of application. An application blank along with specific information regarding topics and instructions will appear in an early issue of the Newsletter.

PSYCHOTHERAPY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dr. Julius Seeman, Chairman of the 1955 Psychotherapy Committee, has provided in final form the Bibliography of Verbatim Transcriptions of Psychotherapy which was the major project of that committee last year. It had been our intent to have the bibliography duplicated for enclosure with this Newsletter, but because of certain technical and financial problems of reproduction and distribution we are holding it until after the meeting of the Executive Committee March 14. We hope, however, to make it available to the membership in the very near future.

SZONDI NEWSLETTER

Word has been received from Stanley C. Mahoney that the Szondi Newsletter has resumed publication. He states "Although the Newsletter will continue to appear at irregular intervals, more frequent issues are planned than have been published in the past. We will continue to stress an informal exchange of ideas and research of interest to Szondi workers." Editor Mahoney writes, further, that the Newsletter is run on a non-profit basis and that publishers are interested in reaching as many Szondi workers as possible. The subscription rate remains indefinite, but it is hoped that the next issue will appear in April. Interested subscribers should write to Stanley C. Mahoney, c/o University Guidance Service, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

BALLOT

Amendment I. Article VII, Committees, Section 1: The Committees of the Division shall consist of such standing committees as are provided by these By-Laws and of such special committees as may be established by the Executive Committee. In accordance with Article (XIII), Section (2), of the By-Laws of the American Psychological Association, the formation of new committees by the Division shall be subject to the approval of the (Committee on Committees of the Association).

In line 4, "IV" shall be substituted for "XIII" and "9" shall be substituted for "2."

In line 7, the words "Board of Directors" shall be substituted.

Yes ____ No ____

Amendment II. Article VII, Committees, Section 3: The Committee on Membership shall consist of five members all of whom shall serve for periods of three years. In order to provide for staggered terms during the first year in which this By-Law is in effect, one member shall be appointed for one year, one for two years, and two for three years. No member shall serve more than two consecutive full terms.

The following words shall be added following the last sentence:
"It shall be the duty of this Committee to recommend applicants for Fellow in APA to the Executive Committee and to the APA Membership Committee, and to endorse and/or review applications recommended by the Sub-Committee on Associates."

Yes ____ No ____

Amendment III. Article VII, Committees, new Section 4: The Sub-Committee on Associates shall consist of three members. It shall be the duty of this committee to recommend applicants for Associate status to the Membership Committee and to the Executive Committee. The chairman of the Sub-Committee on Associates shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Membership Committee.

Yes ____ No ____

Amendment IV. Article VII, Committees, Sections 4, 5, and 6: Number 4 shall be changed to 5, Number 5 to 6, and Number 6 to 7.

Yes ____ No ____



